

CONFIDENTIALCLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLYCENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY China/USSR

DATE DISTR. 15 Feb. 1951

SUBJECT Development of Communications,
Sinkiang Province and Northwest China

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

50X1-HUM

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE
OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT 50
U.S.C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION
OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PRO-
HIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

1. In December 1950 the Chinese Communists, with a view to establishing a base in Northwest China in case of a world war*, were engaged in the following preparatory activities:
 - a. They were planning to extend the Lunghai Railroad to Sinkiang and thence to the USSR.
 - b. Construction work on the T'ienhsui (105-28, 34-36) -Lanchou section of this railroad was being accelerated.
 - c. Repair work on the Hsining-Lanchou highway was being pushed forward, and 4,000 trucks were in use on this highway carrying miscellaneous supplies and empty oil barrels westward.
 - d. The Yumen (97-13, 40-15) oil field was being enlarged to meet urgent military requirements.
 - e. Ten thousand houses in Lanchou were being constructed and repaired for the use of the Northwest Military and Political Committee. half of the houses had been completed.
2. Work was scheduled to start in mid-February 1951 on a railroad from Lanchou to Ilisk (approximately 77-00, 43-50), Kazakh SSR, by way of Anhsi (95-57, 40-32), Hami (93-27, 42-48), Urumchi, Kuldja (81-14, 43-55), and Suiting (80-49, 44-03). In late November 1950 approximately thirty Soviets and an unknown number of Chinese Communist engineers had surveyed this route.
3. The T'ienhsui-Lunghsi (104-30, 35-01) section of the T'ienhsui-Lanchou railroad was scheduled to be opened early in 1951.** Construction on the Lunghsi-Lanchou section started early in December 1950.

CONFIDENTIALCLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

50X1-HUM

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI		

SEE REVERSE FOR DECLASSIFICATION ACTION

BY CABLE

CONFIDENTIAL~~CONFIDENTIAL~~/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

[] 50X1-HUM

-2-

4. In late September 1950 the Chinese Communist Ministry of Railways sent a survey group to Peitashan, on the Outer Mongolian border.
5. In early January 1951 a telegraph service was in operation 16 hours daily between Chuguchak (82-57, 46-45) and Bakhty (approximately 82-50, 47-00). On 30 September 1950 the Telegraph Bureau in Peiping, at the request of the Soviet Post and Telegraph Bureau, ordered the Telegraph Administration in Urumchi to prepare to open telegraph service between Bakhty and Chuguchak and between Alma Ata and Suiting and Sharasume (88-07, 47-52).
6. In January 1951 the Sinkiang authorities in Urumchi requested the Ministry of Posts, Telegraph and Telephone to arrange with the Soviet authorities to have mail from the USSR handled by the postal station at Chimunai (85-43, 47-33) to expedite service. The Urumchi station was handling only outgoing foreign mail; incoming mail was being sent via Chuguchak to Sharasume for distribution.
7. In early February 1951 the headquarters of the Chinese Communist 17 Division, 6 Army, was at Urumchi. []

.50X1-HUM

* [] Comment. [] the Chinese Communists regard Sinkiang Province as an area of the greatest strategical importance. 50X1-HUM

** [] Comment. [] work on the Lanchou-Lunghsi section was to be started in early 1951. 50X1-HUM

[]

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL~~CONFIDENTIAL~~/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY